

**SECTION II—CLAIMS**

1.-28. (Canceled)

29. (New) A method of improving the receive performance of a network adapter, the method comprising:

monitoring an incoming network traffic load; and

dynamically tuning an interrupt delay in response to the incoming network traffic load, wherein dynamically tuning the interrupt delay includes increasing the interrupt delay in response to an increase in the incoming network traffic load, and decreasing the interrupt delay in response to a decrease in the incoming network traffic load, wherein increasing the interrupt delay corresponds to an increase of from 3 milliseconds to 5 milliseconds.

30. (New) A method of improving the receive performance of a network adapter, the method comprising:

monitoring an incoming network traffic load; and

dynamically tuning an interrupt delay in response to the incoming network traffic load, wherein dynamically tuning the interrupt delay includes increasing the interrupt delay in response to an increase in the incoming network traffic load, and decreasing the interrupt delay in response to a decrease in the incoming network traffic load, wherein decreasing the interrupt delay corresponds to a decrease of from 1 millisecond to 3 milliseconds.

31. (New) An article of manufacture, comprising:

a machine-readable medium that provides instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations, the operations comprising:

monitoring an incoming network traffic load; and

dynamically tuning an interrupt delay in response to the incoming network traffic load, wherein dynamically tuning the interrupt delay includes increasing the interrupt delay in response to an increase in the incoming network traffic load, and decreasing the interrupt delay in response to a decrease in the incoming network traffic load, wherein increasing the interrupt delay corresponds to an increase of from 3 milliseconds to 5 milliseconds.

32. (New) An article of manufacture, comprising:

a machine-readable medium that provides instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform operations, the operations comprising:

monitoring an incoming network traffic load; and

dynamically tuning an interrupt delay in response to the incoming network traffic load, wherein dynamically tuning the interrupt delay includes increasing the interrupt delay in response to an increase in the incoming network traffic load, and decreasing the interrupt delay in response to a decrease in the incoming network

traffic load, wherein decreasing the interrupt delay corresponds to a decrease of  
from 1 millisecond to 3 milliseconds.